

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1, 10 and 19 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1, 3-19 and 21-27 are presented for examination.

Claims 1, 3-19 and 21-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Barbour, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,671,390) in view of Lynch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,569,011). Applicants submit that the present claims are patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch.

Barbour discloses a system and method for tracking movement of a sports participant or a sports object associated with a sports activity. An article provides a known spatial phase characteristic conveyed via electromagnetic energy. A receiver monitors the venue area within which the sports activity is occurring. Electromagnetic energy is received that includes the electromagnetic energy from the article that conveys the spatial phase characteristic. The known spatial phase characteristic provided by the article is identified among the spatial phase characteristics of electromagnetic energy to locate the article. Physical movement of the sports participant is tracked by tracking the location of the article. See Barbour at Abstract. Further, a processing unit is disclosed that performs one or more procedures that utilize conveyed spatial phase information. For example, the processing unit generates an image and outputs an image feed for display. The provision of the image feed may be for real-time imagery or for storage to provide delayed imagery. The image may be a visible light image that has been enhanced via the use of the conveyed information. As another example, the processing unit utilizes the information conveyed via the EM energy to monitor, track, and analyze the movements of the sports participants and articles.

Information derived from the determinations and analysis is stored in a storage memory for subsequent retrieval and computation. Within the processing unit, the analysis typically includes determinations and categorizations about sports participant or article movement types, speed, acceleration (quickness), impact force, and the like. The analysis may optionally also be extended to include determinations and categorizations regarding success, strength, weakness, fatigue (changes in statistics of a sports participant during the course of a sporting activity), of the sports participants. Some examples of the further analysis includes determinations of an injury recovery factor (statistical analysis of changes in participant performance after an injury and during recovery), success of a participant for certain maneuvers (plays in a playbook), success of a participant for certain conditions (environmental), success against certain opponents, tendencies of movement for various factors (maneuvers, conditions, opponents, and the like) (col. 6, ll. 9-52).

Lynch discloses a system for tracking players. The system includes one or more player systems, such as a device worn on the arm of each player in a paintball arena. Each player system generates coordinate data and control data, such as data showing the identity of the player, the status of the player, or other suitable control data. A tracking controller receiving the coordinate data and control data, such as by transmitting the coordinate data and the control data over a wireless media from each player system to the tracking controller. The tracking controller performs one or more functions based on the control data, such as mapping the location of one or more players, showing the status of one or more players, and keeping score. See Lynch at Abstract.

Claim 1 of the present invention recites generating semantic information describing an officiating event indicating a potential infraction of one or more rules of the sporting

event. Applicants submit that nowhere in Barbour or Lynch is there disclosed semantic information describing an officiating event that indicates a potential rules infraction for a sporting event. Therefore, any combination of Barbour and Lynch would fail to disclose or suggest such a feature. As a result, claim 1 is patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch.

Claims 3-9 depend from claim 1 and include additional features. Therefore, claims 3-9 are also patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch.

Claim 10 recites officiating event data describing an officiating event indicating a potential infraction of one or more rules of said sporting event. For the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 10 is also patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch. Because claims 11-18 depend from claim 10 and include additional features, claims 11-18 are also patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch.

Claim 19 recites generating semantic information describing an officiating event indicating a potential infraction of one or more rules of the sporting event. Thus, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 19 is also patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch. Because claims 21-27 depend from claim 19 and include additional features, claims 21-27 are also patentable over Barbour in view of Lynch.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

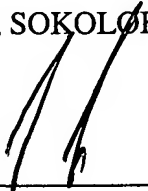
The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: May 24, 2005



Mark L. Watson
Reg. No. 46,322

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980